

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 EUR-25 DRC-01 /121 W
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P 071936Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2758

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASUNCION 2391

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, PINR, PA, GW

SUBJECT: WHEREABOUTS OF GERMAN WAR CRIMINAL JOSEPH MENGELE

1. THE EMBASSY HAS BEEN VISITED BY AMERICAN NEWSMAN ROBERT TROSTLE, A LATIN AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT OF THE CHICAGO DAILY NEWS (RESIDENT IN BUENOS AIRES) WHO IS CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE WHEREABOUTS OF DR. JOSEPH MENGELE, WHO REPORTEDLY IS WANTED BY THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FOR WAR CRIMES. TROSTLE IS DOING RESEARCH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES FEATURES, CONTRIBUTING A CHAPTER TO A BOOK ON MENGELE AND GENETIC RESEARCH DONE IN GERMANY DURING WORLD WAR II.

2. ACCORDING TO TROSTLE, HE HAS GATHERED EVIDENCE IN PARAGUAY IN THE PAST WEEK TO SUBSTANTIATE THE FOLLOWING:

A. THAT MENGELE RECEIVED PARAGUAYAN CITIZENSHIP IN 1953;

B. THAT MENGELE LIVED IN A SMALL GERMAN SETTLEMENT, HOHENHAU, IN SOUTHERN PARAGUAZCN DURING THE EARLY 1960'S WHERE HE PERFORMED FREE MEDICAL SERVICES, IN THAT COMMUNITY;

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C. THAT MENGELE WAS CONSULTED BY A PARAGUAYAN DOCTOR

TO TREAT MARTIN BORMAN HERE ABOUT SIX YEARS AGO
FOR A SERIOUS UNNAMED DISEASE;

D. THAT MENGELE RENEWED HIS PARAGUAYAN PASSPORT IN
1973 AND, PRESUMABLY, HIS CURRENT PHOTOGRAPH IS
AVAILABLE IN ASUNCION POLICE FILES (TROSTLE HAS
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION INDICATING THAT MENGELE'S
EARLIER PASSPORT FILES WERE STOLEN FROM THE
POLICE ARCHIVES AND ARE, IN PART, AVAILABLE TO A
LOCAL NEWSPAPER MAN); AND

E. THAT MENGELE STILL TRAVELS IN AND OUT OF PARAGUAY
AT FREQUENT INTERVALS (SUPPOSEDLY WITH GOP PRO-
TECTION WHILE IN THE COUNTRY) AND IS REPORTED TO
LOOK MUCH YOUNGER THAN HIS 60-PLUS YEARS DUE TO
PLASTIC SURGERY.

3. THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THE TROSTLE ACCOUNT MAY BE
PUBLISHED AS A NEWS OR FEATURE STORY IN THE CHICAGO
DAILY NEWS OR THE NEW YORK TIMES. IN THE PAST, THE
GOP HAS REACTED TO SUCH STORIES BY OFFICIAL STATEMENTS
TTGT IT HAS NO KNOWLEDGE OF MENGELE'S PRESENCE IN
PARAGUAY.

4. THE GERMANY AMBASSADOR HERSLHAS BEEN APPRISED BY THE
EMBASSY IN GENERAL OF TROSTLE'S ALLEGED FINDINGS.

5. THE EMBASSY WILL FORWARD MORE DETAILED INFORMATION,
INCLUDING NAMES, BY CLASSIFIED AIRGRAM.
RICHARDSON

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